

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-8, cancel claims **9-12** and add new claims 13-24. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, **and** listings, of claims in the application.

- 5 --1. **(Currently Amended)** A remote computer management system comprising:
- a plurality of remote computers;
- at least one user interface unit ~~for coupling at least one~~ coupled to a keyboard,
- video monitor and cursor control ~~device to said remote computers~~, said user
- interface unit comprising circuitry ~~for receiving and transmitting~~ keyboard,
- 10 cursor control device and video signals; and
- a plurality of computer interface units, **each** of said computer interface units being
- coupled to one of said remote computers, ~~and each said computer interface~~
- ~~unit being coupled to said user interface unit~~, said computer interface units
- comprising circuitry for receiving **and** transmitting keyboard, cursor control
- 15 device and video signals, and a signaling circuit for generating a signal ~~at each~~
- ~~of said computer interface units upon detection of a specific event;~~
- wherein said computer interface unit bi-directionally communicates with said user
- interface unit over a network.

- 20 2. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling
- circuit signal is ~~produces~~ an audible signal ~~in response to said signaling control circuit~~
- signal.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is a visual signal ~~produces an audible in response to said signaling circuit control signal.~~

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4. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit produces a first response in response to said signaling circuit ~~control~~ signal and a second response to a second signaling circuit ~~control~~ signal.

10 5. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit ~~control~~ signal is produced in response to a hardware or software failure on said remote computer.

15 6. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit ~~control~~ signal is produced in response to a firmware upgrade on said remote computer.

20 7. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit ~~control~~ signal is produced in response to the completion of a firmware upgrade on said computer interface unit.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A system according to claim [[1]] [2], wherein said signaling circuit ~~audible~~-signal indicates the status of an upgrade to said remote computer.

5 9. – 12. **(Canceled)**

13. **(New)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said system further comprises a computer management unit coupled to said computer interface units, wherein said
10 computer management unit enables bi-directional communication among said user interface units and said remote computers.

14. **(New)** A system according to claim 13, wherein said user interface unit sends a request to said computer interface unit via said computer management unit.

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15. **(New)** A system according to claim 15, wherein said signaling circuit signal is generated in response to said request.

16. **(New)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is
20 transmitted to said user interface unit, which displays a notification message on said video monitor upon receipt of said signaling circuit signal.

17. (New) A remote device management system comprising:

a plurality of remote interface modules, each said remote interface module for physically connecting to keyboard, cursor control device and video cables of one a plurality of remote devices and for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals;

a signaling circuit within said remote interface module responsive to a signaling circuit control signal, wherein said signaling circuit is capable of generating a signal in response to said signaling circuit control signal;

at least one management unit coupled to each of said remote interface modules;

and

at least one user interface device coupled to a keyboard, cursor control device, and video monitor for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals;

wherein said user interface device is capable of producing said signaling circuit

control signal; and

wherein each said remote interface module is connected via a single network cable to said management unit.

18. (New) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal indicates the status of said remote devices.

19. (New) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal indicates the status of said remote interface modules.

20. (New) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal is transmitted to said user interface device and upon receipt of said response signal, a status message is displayed on said video monitor.

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21. (New) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal is an audible signal.

22. (New) In a system comprising at least one user interface device and a plurality of remote devices each coupled to a one of a plurality of interface modules, a method of managing said plurality of remote devices comprising the steps of:

10 monitoring for events at said plurality of remote devices via said interface module comprising a signaling circuit;
detecting said event at said interface module;
15 producing a response signal in response to said event detection;
transmitting said signal to said user interface device; and
displaying a notification message on a video monitor in response to said transmitted signal;
wherein said notification message indicates an occurrence of said event.

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23. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein said event includes at least one from the group comprising a firmware upgrade, status update, hardware failure or software failure.

24. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein said signaling circuit produces said response signal. --